

I claim:

1. A method of offering a product for sale between a supplier and a buyer, the method comprising the step of maintaining the anonymity of the supplier.

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2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing information about the product to the buyer.

10 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of updating, editing or changing the product information.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the product information is linked to from a marketplace.

15 5. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of providing a search capability for the product to provide the product information to the buyer.

6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of providing a price watch feature.

20 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a bookmark.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of separating the payment from the buyer and the payment to the supplier.

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9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing payment pass-through from the buyer to the supplier.

10. A method of providing products to potential buyers, the method comprising the 30 steps of:

providing a system that allows a desired product to be searched;

providing information about the desired product responsive to the search; and
maintaining the anonymity of a supplier of the desired product.

11. The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of:
5 entering a product description and a first price into a database of the system;
computing a second price from said first price if desired;
providing product description and the second price to prospective buyers; entering
shipping and tracking information into said database if a product is purchased, and
submitting an invoice to a supplier of said product.

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12. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of submitting further comprises
concealing the name of the supplier.

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13. A method of providing product information comprising the steps of:
providing a database that is accessible to at least one user and to at least one supplier; and
providing information responsive to the user, wherein supplier anonymity is maintained
relative to the user.

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14. A product information system comprising:
at least one maintenance apparatus that includes a database and an application, the
database is accessible to at least two users, the database includes items of information
with at least one item being associated to a one of the users, and the application withholds
the association from another user.

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15. The system of claim 14 wherein the information is for at least one product.

16. The system of claim 14 wherein a user is a supplier.

17. The system of claim 14 wherein the application is capable of providing
30 information responsive to at least one of the users.

18. A system for offering a product for sale comprising:
a database containing price information for a product from each of a plurality of
suppliers;
an Internet connection to said database;
5 a software program to calculate a second price from said price information for each of
said plurality of suppliers; and
a web page operable to display said second price for each of said plurality of suppliers.

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APR 10 1997
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1997 50-1000-000-000